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REPORT CLASS- SECRET-WNINTEL-NOFORN-NOCONTRACT-ORCON

COUNTRY. IRAN

SUBJECT: STATUS OF THE KURDISH MOVEMENT IN IRAN (DOI: LATE SEPTEMBER 1979)

SOURCE: A KURD, NOW RESIDING ABROAD, WHO IS BELIEVED TO HAVE GOOD ACCESS TO THE KURDISH COMMUNITY IN IRAN AND WHO RECENTLY VISITED IRANIAN KURDISTAN. HIS REPORTING RELIABILITY HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED.

SUMMARY: THE MORALE OF PARTISAN FIGHTERS IN IRANIAN KURDISTAN IS HIGH , AND THE KURDS CONTINUE IN THERE DETERMINATION TO GAIN AUTONOMY. THE PRINCIPAL PARTISAN GROUPS CURRENTLY OPERATING IN IRANIAN KURDISTAN ARE THE RESISTANCE GROUP OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF KURDISTAN, THE SAZEMAN-E, ZAHMAT-E FASHAN-E KURDISTAN. THE KURDISTAN SECTION OF THE PEOPLE'S FEDAYEEN AND THE FOLLOWERS OF HOSSEINI. THE KURDS ARE ARMED WITH WEAPONS STOLEN FROM RAIDS ON IRANIAN GARRISONS AND WITH ARMS SUPPLIED BY IRAQ. KURDISH FORCES HAVE SOME CONTACT WITH THE TUDEH PARTY, BUT ACTUALLY COLLABORATE ONLY WITH THE PEOPLE'S FEDAYEEN AND CHRIKH-HAYI-[redacted] IRAN. A NEW ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN FORMED TO LIQUIDATE KURDS WORKING. WITH THE KHOMEINI REGIME. END SUMMARY.

1. DESPITE THE RETREAT OF KURDISH RESISTANCE FIGHTERS AND THE EXTENSIVE MATERIAL AND HUMAN LOSSES SUFFERED IN AUGUST 1979, THE SPIRIT AND MORALE OF THE GENERAL KURDISH POPULATION AND THE PARTISAN FIGHTERS IN IRAN IS HIGH. THE KURDS ARE HOPEFUL ABOUT THE FUTURE AND ARE DETERMINED TO WIN THE STRUGGLE FOR AUTONOMY. THE PEOPLE DO NOT BLAME ABD-AL-RAHMAN Q A S E M L U , SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF KURDISTAN (DPK), OR KURDISH RELIGIOUS LEADER, EZ-ED-DIN H O S S E I N I , FOR THE LOSSES AND RETREAT. KURDS RESPECT AND ADMIRE THESE TWO LEADERS.

2. THE MAJORITY OF KURDISH RESISTANCE UNITS ARE LOCATED NEAR THE IRAQI AND TURKISH BORDER, AND IN THE MOUNTAINS AND FOREST REGIONS OF KURDISTAN. THERE ARE FOUR MAIN ARMED KURDISH PARTISAN GROUPS. THEY ARE:

A. THE ARMED RESISTANCE GROUP OF THE DPK-THIS GROUP'S LEADER IS A FORMER MAJOR IN THE IRANIAN ARMY AND MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE DPK, ABDUL RAHIM A B B A S S I. THE GROUP'S HEADQUARTERS IS IN THE FOREST OF SARDASHT. THESE FORCES ARE CURRENTLY CONDUCTING INTENSIVE TRAINING FOR SUDDEN ATTACKS AND QUICK RETREATS. MILITARY UNITS OF THE DPK ARE OPERATING FROM WESTERN AZERBAIJAN DOWN TO THE SOUTH OF THE KURDISH MOUNTAIN TRAILS TO IRAQ.

B. MILITARY UNITS OF SAZEMAN-E ZAHMET-E KASHAN-E KURDISTAN-THIS IS A MARXIST-LENINIST, LEFTIST MILITARY UNIT LED BY FORMER LAW STUDENT SALAH M U H T A D I. THE SAZEMAN -E ZAHMET-E KASHAN-E KURDISTAN IS RUMORED TO BE OPERATING EITHER IN THE SOUTH NEAR THE IRAQI BORDER OR IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF SANANDASH.

THE KURDISTAN SECTION(SHAHA-YE KURDISTAN) OF THE PEOPLE'S FEDAYEEN-THIS KURDISH GROUP ALSO HAS MARXIST-LENINIST CONVICTIONS AND IS PART OF THE PEOPLE'S FEDAYEEN. IT STRONGLY OPPOSES THE PRESENT KHOMEINI REGIME. THE SO-CALLED RADICAL KURDISH COMMUNIST GROUPS, THE KURDISTAN SECTION OF THE PEOPLE'S FEDAYEEN AND THE SAZEMAN-E KASHAN-E KURDISTAN DIFFER IN THAT THE FIRST IS PART OF AN IRANIAN ORGANIZATION; THE SECOND IS A PURELY KURDISH ENTITY. BOTH ARE ANTI-SOVIET. AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE IS NO ENMITY BETWEEN THEM. THE KURDISTAN SECTION OF THE PEOPLE'S FEDAYEEN OPERATES IN THE MARIVAN AREA.

D. ARMED FOLLOWERS OF RELIGIOUS AND NATIONAL LEADER HOSSEINI-THEY CONSIST OF VARIOUS SMALL GROUPS WHO ARE HIDING AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION IN TOWNS AND LARGER VILLAGES.

E. BESIDES THE ABOVE-MENTIONED FOUR GROUPS, THERE ARE VARIOUS SMALL KURDISH ARMED RESISTANCE GROUPS, AMONG THEM TWO SIGNIFICANT ONES--THE GROUP UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ROSSOUL M O L M A N FROM THE PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST MOVEMENT OF KURDS IN IRAQ, AND THE GROUP OF DR. MAHMOUD O S M A N ALSO FROM IRAQ.

3. THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF KURDISH RESISTANCE FIGHTERS IN IRAN STANDS AT MORE THAN 20,000 . THE MAJORITY OF THESE

FIGHTERS BELONG TO THE ARMED GROUP OF THE DPK. THEY ARE ARMED WITH WEAPONS CAPTURED FROM THE IRANIAN GARRISONS IN MAHABAD, SANANDAJ AND NUSUT IN FEBRUARY 1979. THE KURDS HAVE SUFFICIENT ARMS AND AMMUNITION TO LAST THROUGH THE WINTER ACTIONS.

4. MORE ARMS ARE COMING TO THE IRANIAN KURDS FROM IRAQ. THE MAIN SUPPLIER OF THOSE ARMS IS THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE CELAL T A L A B A N I ORGANIZATION. THE IRANIAN KURDS ALSO RECEIVE AID FROM EAST GERMANY, ROMANIA AND CUBA. THIS AID, HOWEVER, IS [redacted] OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES, FOOD AND CLOTHING, AND USUALLY REACHES THE KURDS VIA IRAQ. IN AUGUST 1979 , THE DPK SENT A SPECIAL DELEGATION TO CUBA. AS OF LATE SEPTEMBER, THE DELEGATION HAD NOT YET RETURNED TO IRAN.

5. Q A S E M L U SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME IN IRAQ AND VERY SELDOM COMES TO IRAN. HOSSEINI IS ALSO HIDING IN IRAQ, BUT FREQUENTLY VISITS IRANIAN KURDISTAN. THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE DPK CENTRAL COMMITTEE SUCH AS MEHMED EMIN S I R A C I, AMIR K H A Z I AND HANI B U L U R I Y A N ARE REMAINING IN IRANIAN KURDISTAN WITH THE ARMED GROUPS.

6. THE DPK AND OTHER KURDISH ARMED GROUPS HAVE SOME CONTACT WITH THE TUDEH PARTY, BUT THEY ARE NOT COLLABORATING WITH IT. THE DPK AND OTHER KURDISH FACTIONS ARE, HOWEVER, CLOSELY COLLABORATING WITH THE PEOPLE'S FEDAYEEN. CHRIKH-HAYI-KHLKI IRAN, AND OTHER IRANIAN DISSIDENT GROUPS WHO ARE OPPOSING THE KHOMEINI REGIME. NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY TO ADOPT A JOINT ACTION PLAN WITHIN THE COMING SIX MONTHS AGAINST THE KHOMEINI REGIME.

7. IRANIAN ARMY UNITS PRESENTLY STATIONED IN KURDISTAN ARE TRYING TO ESTABLISH A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LOCAL POPULATION. THEY OFTEN PROTECT THE LOCALS FROM KHOMEINI'S MILITIA FORCES. THE DPK AND OTHER KURDISH FACTIONS VALUE THIS EFFORT AND SEE IT AS A GOOD SIGN FOR THE FUTURE. THE DPK IS WORKING TO WIN THE SYMPATHY OF ALL TO ESTABLISH A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH IRANIAN ARMY UNITS.

8. A NEW KURDISH ORGANIZATION IS BEING CREATED IN

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IRANIAN KURDISTAN. IT IS CALLED SHAHIT (WITNESS). THE GOAL OF THIS ORGANIZATION IS TO LIQUIDATE THE KURDS WHO ARE COLLABORATING WITH THE KHOMEINI REGIME. NOT LONG AGO SHAHIT KILLED A KURDISH LANDLORD, T E L I B E K (LNU), WHO HAD COLLABORATED WITH KHOMEINI'S REPRESENTATIVES. NOW THE ORGANIZATION IS PLANNING TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST OTHER KURDS WHO ARE SUSPECTED OF WORKING FOR KHOMEINI'S REGIME.

9. NEITHER THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION(PLO) NOR ANY OTHER PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATION HAS AN OFFICE OR REPRESENTATIVES IN IRANIAN KURDISTAN. KERIM H I S S A M I, A MEMBER OF THE DPK'S POLITBURO, IS IN CONTACT WITH A PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN BAGHDAD. HISSAMI ALSO HEADED A DPK DELEGATION WHICH VISITED PLO HEADQUARTERS IN LEBANON. SINCE THAT TIME HE HAS HAD CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE PLO. HISSAMI IS ABOUT 54 YEARS OLD AND RESIDED IN PRAGUE FOR MANY YEARS. HIS FAMILY IS STILL LIVING IN PRAGUE BUT HISSAMI HIMSELF IS IN IRANIAN KURDISTAN.

10. THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY IS IN SESSION IN TEHRAN. THE KURDS ARE NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO IT AND FEEL IT IS WORTHLESS. ONLY ONE KURD FROM SANANDAJ IS A MEMBER OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND HE HAS NO INFLUENCE IN IT.

11. ACQ: (9 OCTOBER 1979)

12. FIELD DISSEM: SENT TO ANKARA, ISTANBUL, TEHRAN.

REPORT CLASS S E C R E T-WARNING NOTICE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED-NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS-NOT RELEASABLE TO COTRACTORS OR CONTRACTOR CONSULTANTS. DISSEMINATION AND EXTRACTION OF INFORMATION CONTROLLED BY ORIGINATOR. RVW 17OCT99 DRV D9C. 1 BY RECORD REPORTING OFFICER. ALL PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

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